

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

96. (Currently amended) A method for making a stained molecular weight ~~marker~~ ladder, said method comprising:

- (a) producing a ~~thioredoxin polypeptide~~ plurality of polypeptides of different molecular weights comprising thioredoxin or a ~~modified~~ thioredoxin ~~deletion mutant~~ having the ability to form inclusion bodies upon expression in a bacterial host cell; and
- (b) incubating the ~~thioredoxin polypeptide~~ plurality of polypeptides with ~~a~~ at least one protein-binding dye to form a plurality of pre-stained molecular weight markers; and
- (c) admixing the plurality of pre-stained markers to form a pre-stained molecular weight ~~marker~~ ladder.

97. (Currently amended) The method of claim 96, further comprising admixing the plurality of polypeptides of different molecular weights comprising thioredoxin or a thioredoxin polypeptide deletion mutant with ~~a plurality of one or more additional~~ stained polypeptides to form a ~~plurality set~~ of pre-stained molecular weight ~~markers~~ standards.

98. (Canceled)

99. (Currently amended) The method of claim 96, wherein the producing step comprises producing a plurality of polypeptides of different molecular weights comprising thioredoxin or a truncated thioredoxin polypeptide comprising an *E. coli* thioredoxin or a modified *E. coli* thioredoxin having the ability to form inclusion bodies upon expression in a bacterial host cell.

100. (Currently amended) The method of claim 96, wherein the producing step comprises producing a ~~modified thioredoxin polypeptide~~ plurality of polypeptides of different molecular weights comprising thioredoxin or a modified thioredoxin deletion mutant having the ability to form inclusion bodies upon expression in a bacterial host cell.

101. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~96~~ 99, wherein the producing step comprises producing a ~~thioredoxin polypeptide~~ plurality of polypeptides of different molecular weights comprising thioredoxin or a truncated thioredoxin having the ability to form inclusion bodies upon expression in a bacterial host cell.

102. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~96~~ 101, wherein the producing step comprises producing a ~~thioredoxin~~ polypeptide comprising a carboxy terminal-truncated thioredoxin having the ability to form inclusion bodies upon expression in a bacterial host cell.

103. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~96~~ 101, wherein the producing step comprises producing a ~~thioredoxin~~-polypeptide comprising a thioredoxin having a truncation of between 2 and 50 carboxy terminal amino acids.

104. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~96~~ 101, wherein the producing step comprises producing a ~~thioredoxin~~-polypeptide comprising a thioredoxin having a truncation of between 33 and 50 carboxy terminal amino acids.

105. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~96~~ 101, wherein the producing step comprises producing a ~~thioredoxin~~-polypeptide comprising a thioredoxin having a truncation of between 2 and 33 carboxy terminal amino acids.

106. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~96~~ 101, wherein the producing step comprises producing a ~~thioredoxin~~-polypeptide comprising a thioredoxin having a truncation of between 2 and 22 carboxy terminal amino acids.

107. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~96~~ 101, wherein the producing step comprises producing a ~~thioredoxin~~-polypeptide comprising a thioredoxin having a truncation of between 23 and 33 carboxy terminal amino acids.

108. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~96~~ 101, wherein the producing step comprises producing a polypeptide comprising a thioredoxin having a truncation of 23 carboxy terminal amino acids.

109. (Currently amended) The method of claim 96, wherein the producing step comprises producing a ~~thioredoxin~~-polypeptide comprising a thioredoxin having a molecular weight of 10 kD.

110. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~96~~ 99, wherein the producing step comprises producing a ~~thioredoxin~~-polypeptide ~~having~~ comprising a carboxy terminal-truncated form of *Escherichia coli* thioredoxin, wherein the carboxy truncated form of *Escherichia coli* thioredoxin ~~which~~ is encoded by a nucleic acid molecule having a nucleotide sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:8.

111-116 (Canceled)

117. (New) The method of claim 96, wherein the plurality of polypeptides of different molecular weights comprises polypeptides having molecular weight increments of 5 kD, 10 kD, 20 kD, 25 kD, 50 kD, or 100 kD.

118. (New) The method of claim 96, wherein the plurality of polypeptides of different molecular weights comprises polypeptides having molecular weight increments of 5 kD.

119. (New) The method of claim 96, wherein the plurality of polypeptides of different molecular weights comprises polypeptides having molecular weight increments of 10 kD.

120. (New) The method of claim 96, wherein the plurality of polypeptides of different molecular weights range from 5 kD to 300 kD.

121. (New) The method of claim 96, wherein the plurality of polypeptides of different molecular weights range from 5 kD to 250 kD.

122. (New) The method of claim 96, wherein the plurality of polypeptides of different molecular weights range from 10 kD to 220 kD.

123. (New) The method of claim 96, wherein the plurality of polypeptides of different molecular weights comprises at least one recombinant fusion protein that comprises thioredoxin or a thioredoxin deletion mutant fused to at least one other polypeptide.

124. (New) The method of claim 96, wherein the plurality of polypeptides of different molecular weights comprises at least one recombinant fusion protein that multimers of thioredoxin or a thioredoxin deletion mutant.